

*BERRIE et al.*  
Application No. 09/674,682  
June 14, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and substitute in its place the new abstract attached hereto on a separate page.

**ABSTRACT**

A connection service is provided between a user's terminal connected to a telephone network and the public Internet through a point-of-presence. The user's computer dials a connection service access telephone number and a connection is created between the user's terminal and the point-of-presence. The point-of-presence then checks that the dialled connection service access telephone number is one of one or more valid connection service access telephone numbers. If the dialled connection service access number is valid, then the point-of-presence transmits an allocated Internet network address to the user's terminal. The point-of-presence then provides a connection between the user's terminal and the public Internet for messages containing the allocated network address.